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The Hongkong Telegraph

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

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February 15, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 57 2 p.m. 66.
Humidity 68 39

February 15, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 55 2 p.m. 60.
Humidity 70 69

WEATHER FORECAST
OVERCAST.
Barometer 30.11.

7587 日四廿月一

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1917.

四拜禮 號五十月二英曆 1917
SINGLE COPY 10 CENTS.
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TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

AMERICA AND GERMANY.

Demand for Release of "Yarrowdale" Prisoners.

London, February 14.

Reuter's correspondent at Washington says that a Note has been sent to Germany, through the Swiss Minister, on the subject of the Yarrowdale prisoners. It is believed that the Note demands their release.

A German Dodge.

London, February 14.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Washington, officials regard the alleged German offer to discuss means for preventing war as an effort to cast on the United States the appearance of being a belligerent.

The New York Herald learns that the German overtures are so nebulous that there is not the slightest chance of their meeting with success.

The Times regards the idea as the outcome of active peace propaganda engineered in the United States, which exposes German methods on the matter.

A telegram from New York says that it was the *Koelnische Zeitung* messages of February 6 and 12 which led to the German offer to negotiate. It is stated that Mr. Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, consented to transmitting the wireless message. President Wilson's attitude towards Mr. Daniels is awaited with the utmost interest, and there is much resentment at Mr. Bryan's pretension to speak to Germany on behalf of the nation.

THE DECISIVE THEATRE.

War to be Decided on the Battlefield.

London, February 14.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Paris, Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, interviewed, stated that the Western Front was the decisive front. There was no doubt that the Allies would break the German West front.

The war would be decided on the battlefield. Peace might be declared in 1917, but if Germany could not be entirely beaten this year the Allies would not hesitate to carry on the war. There could be no lasting peace without complete victory. The British troops were indomitably resolved to fight to the end.

More Guns Wanted.

London, February 14.

In the course of his interview, Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig said: "What we have done is enormous, but there is still much to do. Already we have reached the munitions output we wanted; we now want more guns and railways. We cannot have too many guns, owing to the continuous wastage."

"Regarding railways, the dislocation between the tonnage landed at our bases and the tonnage which the railways are capable of carrying has hampered operations. The directors of English railways have investigated our requirements and have given us more than we have asked; indeed, they have often stripped their own railways of ballast, of which we are in want."

"We are also supplying material of all sorts to the Allies, especially to Russia, Italy and Rumania. We cannot escape this obligation, owing to the necessity of maintaining a united and solid front. Do not forget that the Western Front is and will remain the principal front, on which, I am convinced, the decision of the war will take place. Hence our policy of making the Western Front defensively and offensively the best."

The correspondent asked whether a decision would be secured by breaking down the German front.

Sir Douglas Haig replied: "That is how I imagine the decision will take place. French warfare must give way to a war of movement, which alone will procure the advantages we count upon."

Sir Douglas Haig emphasised that an incomplete or halting peace would leave Germany able to take a terrible revenge in the near future. After having attacked England, she would be again on the French frontiers, greedier than ever for the blood of conquest. "Let us beware," said Sir Douglas, "of the suspicious manoeuvres of the enemy, who, feeling himself lost, talks of peace and seeks to divide us."

Preparing for the Spring Campaign.

London, February 14.

According to Reuter's correspondent at New York, the Associated Press representative formerly in Berlin telegraphs from Copenhagen to the effect that railway traffic in Germany is greatly restricted owing to troop movements, preliminary to the Spring Campaign, which the German leaders evidently expect to open in about a week.

INDIAN WHEAT MARKET.

A Question Answered.

London, February 14.

In the House of Commons, Col. Yate asked: "Does the Wheat Commission purchase wheat in India at two shillings above the Indian market price, with the result of upsetting the whole Indian wheat market?"

Captain Bathurst, replying for Lord Devonport, said: "The Wheat Commission inform me that they purchase at the market price."

FRENCH COAST SHELLED.

Appearance of an Enemy Submarine.

London, February 14.

A Paris communique says: "At five o'clock on Monday afternoon an enemy submarine fired six shots on the coast near the mouth of the Adour."

Coast batteries replied, and the submarine plunged immediately. Five people were wounded, but little damage was done."

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

THE NEW FRIGHTFULNESS.

A Joint Scandinavian Protest.

London, February 14.

Reuter's correspondent at Copenhagen says that a joint Scandinavian protest against submarine points out that submarineism is contrary to international law, especially as it apparently applies even to ships voyaging between neutral ports.

The protest makes all reservations regarding loss of life or damage resulting therefrom.

Protection of Neutral Shipping.

London, February 14.

In the House of Lords, Lord Curzon, referring to the measures taken to safeguard neutral shipping, said we had signified our willingness to pay increased freight, to provide special insurance and had offered premiums to crews and even to purchase ships. Arrangements had also been made to build new ships in America and Japan. We were converting passenger vessels into cargo ships and, with the sanction of the Deck Loads Commission, we had added half a million tons to their carrying capacity.

Speaking of the total prohibition of non-essentials, Lord Curzon said this would raise a complex question. The Dominions and the Allies strain our industries, but small needs must be set aside for greater.

No More Warnings.

London, February 13.

Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam quotes an Berlin official message to the effect that the secret period of grace for neutral steamers and enemy passenger ships, on which neutrals might be travelling, expired on the 6th inst. for the North Sea, the 10th inst. for the Mediterranean, and the 12th inst. for the Atlantic and the English Channel. Henceforth there will be no more warnings. The message denies that neutral vessels have hitherto been sunk without warning.

An Attempt to Deceive?

London, February 14.

Military experts declare that submarine warfare was anti-dated with a view to interfering with the cross-Channel transport of British troops, and also with a view to upsetting the plans of the Entente.

An American Steamer Sunk.

London, February 14.

Reuter's correspondent at Rome states that the American steamer *Lyman M. Law*, of 2,000 tons, carrying tools, was sunk by a submarine off Sardinia. The crew has been landed.

"Now in Full Swing."

London, February 14.

According to Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, a Berlin official message states: "An unfounded idea has got abroad that submarine warfare will be weakened out of regard for America, or for other reasons. Unrestricted war against all sea traffic in the barred zones is now in full swing and will not be restricted under any circumstances."

More Sinkings.

London, February 14.

The sinking of the following steamers is announced:—*Lycia* and *Netherlee* (British), *Aghios Spyridon* (Greek) and two British small craft. The total tonnage of the sunken vessels amounts to 8,700 tons.

Terrible Experiences.

London, February 14.

Terrible stories of frightfulness on the sea still continue to be related. For instance, twenty-three survivors of the torpedoed Liverpool liner *Artiste* were in an open boat for four days. Seven died of exposure and two had to be sent to hospital.

THE RUSSIAN ARMY.

A Million More Men.

London, February 14.

Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd states that the 1897 and 1898 Classes have been called to the colours, and will provide a million more effectives in the next few months.

POST-WAR POLICY.

Imperial Preference Advocated.

London, February 14.

The Times says it is understood that Lord Balfour's Committee on post-war trade policy unanimously recommends Imperial Preference as the foundation of our future world economic policy.

DUTCH HUNGER RIOTS.

London, February 14.

Reuter's correspondent at Rotterdam says there have been hunger riots in the principal streets. Provision shops were pillaged and the police dispersed the crowds with sabres and sticks.

U. S. NAVAL BILL.

Important Emergency Provisions.

London, February 14.

Reuter's correspondent at Washington says that the House of Representatives has passed a Naval Bill appropriating three hundred and sixty-nine million dollars. This includes emergency measures for the commandeering of shipyards, munition works, and the acquiring of patents in aircraft.

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

THE HONOURS LIST.

Recognition of War Work.

London, February 13.

A feature of the new Honours List is that nearly all are for war work, and none for political services.

Sir Hugh Graham, proprietor of the *Montreal Evening Star*, is the only Peer. Colonel Owen Thomas (mentioned in the *Corwallis* West report), is knighted for services in recruiting, while Mr. W.A. Tritton, Ministry of Munitions, is knighted for work in the development of "tanks."

Further Decorations.

London, February 14.

The following decorations have been bestowed:—
G.O.M.G.—Sir G. V. Fiddes, Assistant Under Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Baronetcy.—Sir Frank Adam, Vice Chairman of the East Lancs. Territorial Force.

Privy Counsellor of Ireland.—Mr. Bryan Mason.

Knight Bachelor.—Mr. Ambalawane Kanagasabai, a former member of the Ceylon Legislature.

O.M.G.—Mr. A. S. Pagden, Controller of Revenue, Ceylon; Dr. Sansom, Medical Officer, Malay States; the Hon. Mr. Claud Severn, Colonial Secretary, Hongkong.

K.C.B.—Mr. John Norton-Griffiths, Conservative M.P. for Wednesbury; the Earl of Dartmouth; Sir Frederick Black Allen, New Zealand Minister of Defence; Mr. Kent, Director of Labour Supply to the Ministry of Munitions; Mr. Duckham, Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Munitions; General Charles Ellis, Director General of Ordnance Supplies; Mr. E. H. Tennyson, D'Eyncourt, Director of Naval Construction; Major General Sir Charles Crutchley, Lieut. Governor and Secretary of the Royal Naval Hospital, Chelsea.

O.B.—The Duke of Atholl, and seven organisers of the Territorial Force.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

Much Activity by the British.

London, February 14.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communique, says:—A strong raiding party to the south of Ypres caused the enemy heavy losses. We took some prisoners.

The enemy's repeated attacks south of Serre were unsuccessful. We penetrated several hundred yards and gained positions to the east of Souchez, where we destroyed a trench railroad, four mine shafts and many dug-outs. The enemy resisted stubbornly and many were killed and forty-seven made prisoner. Our casualties were light.

We destroyed several occupied dug-outs north-east of Neuville St. Vaast, northward of Luns and eastward of Ypres.

A small party reached our trenches southward of Armentieres, but were rejected.

Two British Attacks.

London, February 14.

A German wireless official message says:—We repulsed, in hand-to-hand fighting, two English attacks to the south of Serre, and drove off detachments of enemy troops established before the front, at the point of the bayonet.

Mutual Attacks.

London, February 14.

A French communique states:—An enemy attack in the sector of Baccarat, in Lorraine, failed.

We carried out a successful *comp de main* to the east of Metzeral, in Alsace, and brought back prisoners.

A German aeroplane bombed Dunkirk in the region of Pompey and the Meurthe and Moselle, two civilians being killed and two injured.

More British Progress.

London, February 14.

Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communique, states:—We captured a strong point south-east of Grandcourt and took some prisoners.

We penetrated 230 yards of defences north-east of Arras, reaching the third line. Two machine-gun emplacements and a number of dug-outs were destroyed, and many were killed in the dug-outs, which they refused to leave. Forty were made prisoner. Our casualties were very slight.

We entered lines to the north of the Somme, north-east of Ypres, inflicting considerable enemy casualties.

The enemy's attempted raid to the east of Armentieres in the night-time was repulsed. A second party reached trenches south of Messines, but it was quickly rejected.

We exploded three ammunition dumps to the east of Armentieres and caused a fire in the enemy's lines northward of Ypres.

BRITISH COAL MINES.

All Taken Over by the State.

London, February 14.

The Press Bureau announces that the Board of Trade assumes possession of all coal mines in the United Kingdom for the duration of the war.

Mr. Guy Galthrop, Manager of London and North Western Railway, is entrusted with the new Department as Controller of Coal Mines, and an Advisory Committee, representing employers and employed, will also assist.

BRUGES HARBOUR BOMBED.

London, February 14.

The Admiralty announces that aeroplanes dropped a number of heavy bombs on shipping in Bruges Harbour on Thursday. Large fires were observed and a hostile aeroplane was seen to leave.

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

ABYSSINIAN REBELS MOUTED.

London, February 14.

Reuter's correspondent at Addis Ababa states that six thousand Government troops routed seven thousand followers of Lidj Eyasa, the deposed Emperor, who, as usual, fled the night before the battle and is still at large. The Emperor was crowned on February 11.

SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL STUDIES.

London, February 13.

The Queen will accompany the King at the opening of the School of Oriental Studies on February 23. Sir John Prescott Hewett will read an address, and the King will reply. Lord Curzon will speak.

GERMANY'S STRAITS.

Berlin Burgomaster's Admission.

Amsterdam, Jan. 5.—At yesterday's sitting the Berlin Municipality was occupied with the difficulties of supplying food-stuffs. A Socialist resolution was submitted demanding the uniform distribution of foodstuffs between the country and towns and steps to be taken to prevent the holding back of milk, fat, grease, and potatoes by producers for profiteering purposes. A Liberal motion condemned the present restrictions laid upon towns in the purchase of food supplies.

The chief speaker was the Socialist Warm, who especially criticised Herr Batocki, the food controller, whose latest circular letter is described as a complete confession of the impotence of the State's power before the farmers. Even the appeal of Hindenburg to the producers had been of no use. A Liberal member supported Herr Warm's statements.

The Chief Burgomaster, Herr Wermuth, was especially pessimistic regarding food supplies in Berlin. He said that the official distribution office had not succeeded in regulating Berlin's milk supply in a satisfactory manner. The supply had continually declined and had reached an alarmingly low level. The better supply had declined to the same degree and the potato supply would remain unsatisfactory until February 15. Worst of all, he considered, were the fluctuations between the various systems, which prevented communities from operating successfully. Both resolutions were adopted. —Reuter.

DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinema—9.15 p.m.

TO-MORROW.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinema—9.15 p.m.
Saturday, February 17.
Hongkong Hotel.—Shareholders meeting at noon.
Saturday, February 24.
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank.—Shareholders meeting at noon.
Monday, February 26.
Race Meeting.—First Day.
Tuesday, February 27.
Race Meeting.—Second Day.
Wednesday, February 28.
Race Meeting.—Third Day.

NOTICES.

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General Managers.
Hongkong, 16th August, 1916.

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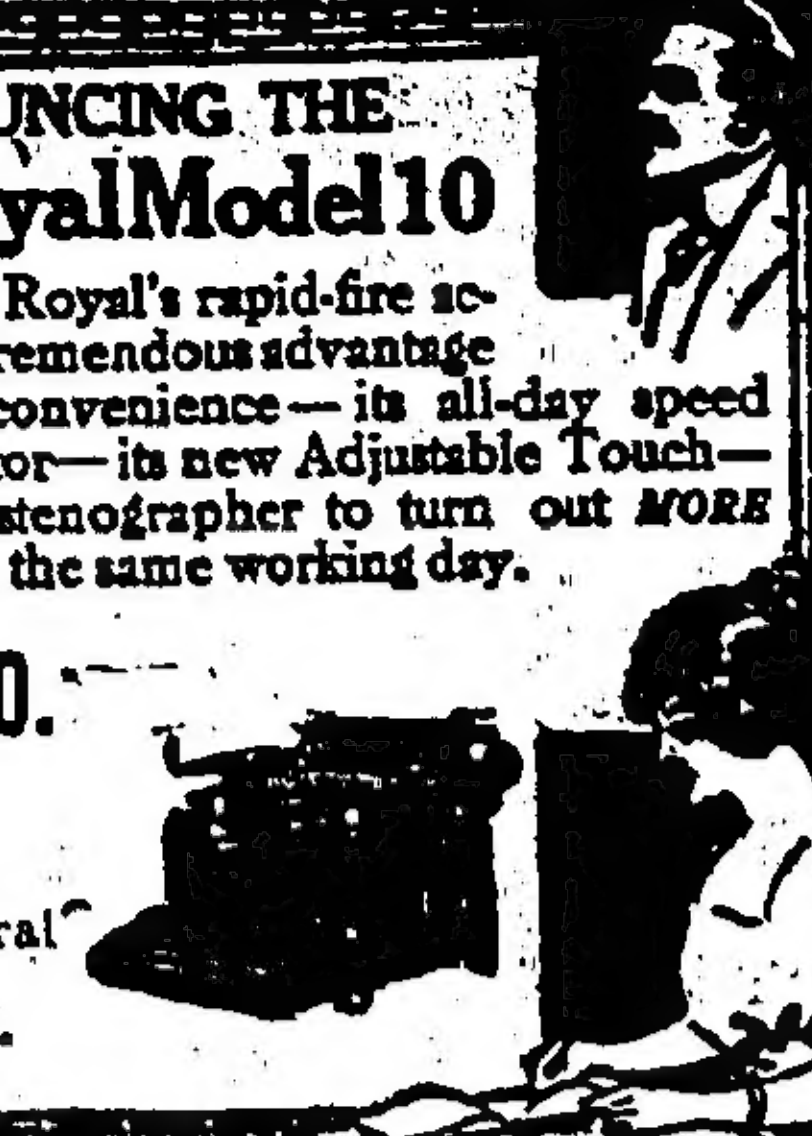
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GENERAL NEWS.

Live Shell on British Railway.
An alarming discovery was
made on December 31 at Bromley
South Station, on the South
Eastern Railway, a live shell,
about six inches long, being
picked up from the permanent
way. The shell, which was lying
only a foot or two away from the
up main line, was found by a
porter. It is not known whether
the shell had been deliberately
placed on the line or had fallen
from a passing train.

K. S. L. Man's Death.

At the Protestant Cemetery,
Bidadari, (Singapore) the burial
took place the other day of
Private Ryder, of the King's
Shropshire Light Infantry, who
died from internal septic poison-
ing. Private Ryder, who was only
twenty-three years of age, came to
the Straits with the last draft of
his regiment, so late as May last.
His comrades speak of him as
having been of a quiet, unassuming
nature, and well liked in his
company.

Wounded Men for Malaya.

Generally speaking, we fear,
the experiment of engaging men
who have been wounded at the
front for work on rubber planta-
tions in this country is not proving
an unqualified success. Several
cases we do know of where men
who have lost an arm or an eye in
action, have been invalided out of the
service and have come out to estates,
are doing excellent work, but
these do not seem to be the
majority. Where men have
suffered serious shell shock or
gassing it seems, in the light of
experience, to be distinctly in-
advisable to send them out to a
trying tropical climate. In one or
two instances, we are sorry to say,
managers have had real reason to
regret that they ever suggested
to their boards or agents that a
wounded soldier would possibly
make a useful assistant.—Straits
Echo.

Mr. Tan Kim Bee, J. P.

On the first occasion in the
annals of the State of Selangor
that the Chinese community
have had their services re-
cognised by the Government
in a tangible way by ap-
pointing a certain number of them
to be Justices of the Peace, his
fellow countrymen of all the vari-
ous clans in Kuala Lumpur and the
outlying townships, with due
appreciation of his well merited
services, assembled at the resi-
dence of Mr. Tan Kim Bee on the
afternoon of January 31 and
presented him with three
glass-mounted addresses, and also
an elaborate one inscribed on a
black polished wooden board, in
letters of gold, together with a
rich Chinese silk scroll from the
recently-established Chinese
Mutual Improvement Association.
The occasion was marked by a
sumptuous tiffin given at the
Towkay's residence, under the
auspices of the Association. In
the evening of the same day, there
was a grand dinner at the Associa-
tion premises. Another dinner
was also given in the same pre-
mises the following evening by a
few of the Towkay's intimate
friends.—Malay Mail.

German Art Boom.

Pictures and other objects of
art continue to command astound-
ing prices in Germany, says an
Exchange. For some reason not
difficult to guess, a large share of
the war profits seems to find its
way into the pockets of art dealers
and artists. Starling results
were obtained at the sale in
Munich of the Georg Hirth collec-
tion of ancient porcelain and pot-
tery. The sale was attended by a
vast crowd, which included the di-
rectors of most of the museums of
Germany and Austria, notably
those of Berlin, Vienna, Budapest,
Leipzig, Stuttgart, Nuremberg,
Darmstadt, and Weimar, who
entered into keen competition
with other buyers. The con-
solation price of \$3,100 was given
for a Nymphenburg porcelain
figure of a dancer, a character
from the Italian Comedy, modelled
by Passelli. Another Nym-
phenburg figure by the same artist
realised \$1,000, and a Bacchus
\$500. Many other pieces went at
prices ranging from \$100 to \$200.

E HING

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SHIP CHANDLERS & GENERAL STOREKEEPERS.
STEEL, IRON, BRASS & METAL MERCHANTS.
WHOLESALE & RETAIL DRUGGISTS.

GENERAL NEWS.

No Wheat for British Brewers.

The Board of Trade has made an Order, which is now in force, prohibiting the use of wheat in the manufacture of beer and similar liquors, purchases of wheat having been made recently by brewers for use in their business in consequence of the scarcity and high price of barley. The use of any grain for production of spirits without authorisation of the Ministry of Munitions was prohibited by Order dated May 10.

The Sino Japanese Bank of Hunan.

The establishment of the Sino-Japanese Bank of Hunan has been delayed owing to the internal troubles in China but the arrangements have now been concluded and the Bank will be established with a capital of Yen 1,000,000. The personnel, both Chinese and Japanese, has been almost completed and the head office will be at Changsha, Hunan. The general meeting of inauguration will soon be held. The Bank will open its business on the 1st March with a progressive policy to establish a sound foundation.—*Exchange.*

The C. P. R. President.

Lord Shaugnessy, according to a cable to the *Chicago Daily News*, is soon to resign the presidency of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and will go to England to live and sit in the House of Lords, "assuming the role of an imperial figure." Lord Shaugnessy was born in Milwaukee, Wis., sixty-three years ago and began his business career in the offices of the St. Paul Railway in that city when he was 16 years old. Later he attracted the attention of Sir William Van Horne [an Illinoisian] and joined his forces in Canada. He early reached the vice-presidency of the Canadian Pacific, and upon the retirement of Sir William succeeded to the presidency.

Imprisoned Merchant Service Men.

Much anxiety on the part of relatives and friends is caused in cases where merchant captains and engineers are taken prisoners by submarines after the sinking of their vessels. The Imperial Merchant Service Guild set up prompt inquiries as regards any of their members, and have just been informed by the Foreign Office that Captain S. Wood, of the steamship *Thurso*, were interned and taken to the prisoners camp at Dolmen on October 3 last, and that Captain J. J. Bedford, of the steamship *Boadicea*, is shortly to be transferred from Gratz to the station for interned officers at Salzburg, Lower Austria.

Plague in India.

Simla, Jan. 25.—The plague mortality in India continues to increase rapidly, the provinces chiefly affected being Bombay and Sind, the United Provinces, the Central Provinces, and Hyderabad State. The returns for the week ending Jan. 20 show a grand total of 13,085 deaths distributed as under: Bombay presidency 552, Bengal presidency 2, Bihar and Orissa 593, United Provinces 2,033, Punjab 31, Burma 194, Central Provinces 1,591, Mysore State 336, Hyderabad State 3,671, Central India 316 and Rajputana 16.

After the War.

London, December 31.—A special committee appointed by the London Chamber of Commerce has recommended:—(1) Restriction of enemy trade within the Empire; (2) State aid for improving land and water transport; (3) penalising of enemy shipping; (4) State co-operation in promoting trade banks to assist business abroad; (5) payment of wages sufficient to secure for workers a reasonable standard of living; (6) encouragement of profit sharing co-partnership, and technical education; (7) granting of preferences by Government departments and local authorities for goods produced within the Empire; (8) retention of all German ships in the possession of the Allies; and (9) replacement by the enemy of all ships sunk by them.

NOTICES.

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WALTER FORD & CO.

THE interest and responsibility of William Walter Edwards in the firm of Walter Ford & Co., Commission Agents, 8, Queen's Road Central, ceased on the 31st day of August, 1916, on which date he by mutual consent of all the partners ceased to be a partner.

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Honorary Secretaries & Treasurers.
Hongkong, 15th January, 1917.

G. R.

Any European, Non-Asiatic or Indian desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the Central Police Station between the hours of 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Applicants will be required to produce Passports or identification papers.

All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916. Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G. P. O. and at all Police Stations.

The Penalty for non-compliance is a fine not exceeding \$50.

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TO BE LET—No 10, Seymour Terrace. Apply to—P. M. N. da Silva 6, Des Voeux Road.

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TO BE LET—First class FURNISHED ROOMS, suitable for Single Men, or Married Couples, with or without board. Electric Light and Bath. Use of Telephone. Terms moderate. Tel. No. K 3. Apply T. E. Hall, Palace Hotel, Kowloon.

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Houses in Clifton Gardens, Conduit Road.
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Houses on Sharncliffe, Canton. Apply to—
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TO BE LET—Four-roomed houses in Gordon Terrace and Salisbury Avenue, and a "FLAT" in Humphreys Buildings, Kowloon.
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TO BE LET at the Peak, furnished, 3 Stewart Terrace. Apply—H. E. Pollock, Prince's Buildings.

TO LET—From 1st May, 1916, Offices, 2nd Floor, St. George's Building. Apply to—
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TO LET—Flats in "Two Mess," No. 8 the Peak. Apply Property Office, JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.

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LOST—Between Glenalea & Conduit Road, a Lady's Solid Gold Curb Chain Bracelet, with Gold Padlock. Finder will be suitably rewarded on returning same to "G" Post Office Box 258.

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WANTED.—Position as Ship's Cook. Apply Box 1257 "Hongkong Telegraph."

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Imperial Bouquet per	100	\$5.30
Crown Prince	100	4.65
"	50	2.35
"	10	.50
Extra Fine (Grand Format)	50	2.35
Nectar	50	2.35
Yildiz	25	1.10
Club Size	10	.40
Non Plus Ultra	100	3.60
"	50	1.85
"	20	.75
Superfine	100	2.40
"	50	1.20

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HOTEL MANSIONS.

SMOKE THE POPULAR CIGARETTES

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CORK TIPPED. Per 100 \$1.50
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The Graceo-Egyptian Tobacco Store has always in stock, from all the best Egyptian cigarette manufacturers, fresh stocks, such as *Imperial*, *Imperial N. 15*, *Tocot*, *M. Malachrine*, *Diminuto*, *Siam*, *Arab*, *Mosque*, *Forest*, *Palace*, *Special*, *Taherwood* Brothers, *Westminster* Specials, etc.

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All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

Cable Address: Telegraph, Hongkong.

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MARRIAGE.

SORBY-CONWAY.—On the 14th inst. at St. Joseph's Church, by the Rev. Father Augustin, Vincent Dare Sorby, eldest son of the late F. L. Sorby, of Workop, Notts, to Josephine Patricia, second daughter of Mr. J. Conway of Limerick, Ireland.

BEVINGTON-BROWN.—At St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, on February 14th by the Rev. Copley Moyle, Francis, fifth son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Storrs Bevington, Sea View, Frinton on Sea, Essex, to Jessie Olive, niece and adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Brown of Suva, Fiji.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1917.

A PRESS LAW FOR CHINA.

It must be taken as an exceedingly hopeful sign that Chiao, in the midst of her anxieties, has contrived to find time to draft what she needed so long and so badly: a press law. The draft is the work of Mr. Chiao, the Minister of Justice, and is now about to be laid before the Peking Parliament. In the main it seems to be based on the British press law, and if introduced—and acted upon—it should certainly revolutionise the newspapers and journalistic methods of China. It is an old complaint of ours that the Chinese have never had a fair chance of getting their news presented to them in a sane form, because the newspaper business was practically unrecognised by the State. Under the Manchus there were certain haphazard laws, but we doubt if any of these were observed, save the one which ordered newspaper proprietors to deposit a certain sum of money with the police.

A glance through the text of the proposed Act shows that, in one or two respects, it is even something of an improvement on the British law. For instance, before a new journal can come into existence, it is proposed that a memorial shall be submitted to the Police, setting forth, among other things, the policy of the paper, and the name, age, address and previous record of the publisher, editor and printers. Six disqualifications for editorship are mentioned: Having no fixed residence in the country; having been deprived of public rights; being in naval or military service; holding administrative office; being still a student in a public school; having any mental disease. Those disqualifications, and particularly the last, might be introduced advantageously into the British press law. Another valuable innovation in the following: "Persons supplying articles, reporting, or inserting corrections in newspapers shall share the responsibility of publication with the editor." This, too, we would willingly see introduced into the British law on the subject, for at present an editor may have to meet heavy damages, or may be sent to gaol, through absolutely no fault of his own. The late Dr. Shorthouse, of "Pink Un" fame, went to prison for three months, sheerly through the carelessness of his assistant editor—who, in English law, could not be held responsible for libel.

Other excellent rules find a place in the new law. Indeed the scheme is so good in general that one is rather staggered to find that "Newspapers shall not be allowed to publish opinions subversive of the present form of government"—on pain of fine, imprisonment, confiscation and all sorts of deadly things. Here is a piece of Prussianism which certainly is not worthy of the republican freedom to which young China aspires. Of course "subversive" is a rather a loose term, and may not properly express the Chinese word or words for which it is offered as an equivalent; but taking it at face value, one can hardly fail to regret the admission of such a clause. There are many honest men in China, thoughtful and of good education, who are by no means convinced that republicanism is an ideal form of government for the country; and to treat them like criminals for venturing to say so is to preserve one of the worst features of the life of old China. Moreover it is but a step from punishing a man for writing "subversive" matter, to punishing him for offering mild and much-needed criticism of the Government. The Chinese should reflect that, had it not been for press criticism, Great Britain would still be in the hands of one of the most puerile ministries she ever possessed. It is not good that the newspaper should be—as it is in certain parts of America—a tyrant and a bully, forever taking an unfair advantage of those who cannot hit back; but it is good that it should have the fullest possible right to ventilate public grievances by means of rational criticism. Is the present Government of China so entirely immaculate that it needs no salvation, and cannot possibly profit by being made occasionally to see itself as others see it?

An Appeal.

It has been suggested to us that, in view of the approaching departure of certain young civilians for the Front, it is Hongkong's duty to take steps to prevent needless loss over the disposal of personal property which such men may wish to sell. It commonly happens here that, even where a man is living in a hotel, a mess or furnished room, he gradually collects a stock of ornaments, books, pictures and so forth. In other cases he may have a houseful of furniture, a yacht, a pony, a motor, or what not. Even in normal times, on leaving the Colony he usually does not wish to take his more bulky belongings with him, and at a time like the present, he naturally wants as little impediment as possible. The men of whom we speak are going away on what might be termed short notice, and this necessarily means selling their property at a sacrifice, for they are not in a position to haggle. In many cases objects more or less valuable must be practically given away. Seeing that the owners are leaving for patriotic purposes, it will be highly discreditable to this Colony if bargain-hunters are allowed to profit by such a situation. Why cannot a body of responsible men be formed to act as trustees or liquidators—to dispose, as opportunity offers, of all goods left in its charge, and, where necessary, to advance money to the owners of the goods? There would be obstacles, we know, but none of them insuperable. If the owners are patriotic enough to volunteer for active service, some of those who stay behind might at least do their share towards smoothing the path; might make small sacrifices for the sake of those who are making great ones. It should not be very difficult to collect a committee of men who would appoint a competent valuer and who would see that, so far as possible, at least a reasonable price was paid for the goods sold—whether the selling was by private arrangement or at auction.

We are very glad to see from one of to-day's cables that a suggestion has been made in the House of Commons as to the desirability of publishing the names of "large companies that are unpatriotically holding up large quantities of tea." We would go a step farther and suggest that six months in gaol, together with a substantial fine, should be the reward for such vile selfishness and greed. What has the Home Government been thinking about to allow war profits on the scale that has obtained? It is not our practice to offer arguments in favour of trade unions and strikes, but it has, in common honesty, to be admitted that many of the labour troubles which have threatened, or which have actually come to pass, would never have been thought of had it not been for the grasping of the capitalists. Why has the Government not dealt with such people as they deserved? If a capitalist happens to have no such thing as a conscience or a patriotic instinct about him, it is the State's duty to teach him the way where in he should walk. One has but to look through a list of Home prizes for groceries etc. to recognise at once that the poor ("the poor," by the way, to-day means what used to be known as the middle classes) are being robbed right and left, in order to satisfy the cupidity of the big firms. The new Government has only been in office a couple of months and it is not reasonable to expect it to atone, in that time, for all the cruel errors of its predecessor; but we certainly hope to see it get busy without further delay over this question of excessive war profits—for which a better name would be blood money. When the soldier's or sailor's widow is called upon to pay a couple or treble price for her cup of tea it is time that somebody went to gaol.

For One Night Only.

Readers are reminded that the great Pathé drama "The Daughter of Herodias" is being shown (for one night only) at the Victoria Theatre to-night.

DAY BY DAY.

IF YOU HAVE NOT THE FORCE OF CHARACTER TO MAKE AN ENEMY YOU WILL NEVER MAKE A FRIEND.

The Dollar.

The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 2s. 4.9/10d.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the 83rd anniversary of the death of Lionel Lukin, inventor of the lifeboat.

Helena May Institute.
The last lecture on "Ruekin" will be delivered at the Helena May Institute to-morrow at 10.15 a.m.

Bandman Opera Company.
The Bandman Opera Company is due in Hongkong on March 2 and will open a season here on the following night.

High Life at Yau-mat.
At the Police Court this morning, before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, a Chinese was charged with stealing \$50, the property of Lee Sergeant Ball, of the examination launch Hop Hing. The man was arrested, and Inspector Brazil told the Court that all the money had been spent on high living in Yau-mat. Defendant was sent to prison for a month.

Bijou Theatre.
The above theatre is showing some very good films to-night, the programmes including "A Wife's Sacrifice" (in five parts) and "Love's Young Dream." A magnificent five-part picture "Save the Queen," as well as a two-part film, "Honour before Wealth," will be screened at the next change of programme on Saturday.

Forthcoming Wedding.
We learn that Mr. T. N. Chan, son of Mr. Chau Siu-ki the well-known local financier, is to be married early next month to the daughter of Mr. Su Wik-hung, a prominent Cantonese. The wedding will take place at Canton. The bridegroom, who is a member of the English bar and an Oxford graduate, recently returned to the Colony and is practising law here.

At St. Joseph's Church yesterday, the wedding took place of Mr. Vincent D. Sorby, eldest son of the late Mr. F. L. Sorby, of Workop, Notts, and Miss Josephine P. Conway, second daughter of Mr. J. Conway, of Limerick, both of whom are very well-known in the Colony. The service was conducted by the Rev. Father Augustine. Miss Christine Bancroft acted as bridesmaid, and the bride was given away by Mr. H. B. Bridger. Mr. Harold Seth acted as best man. After the ceremony a reception was held at the Hongkong Hotel. The honeymoon is being spent at Tai-po.

Is A Hurry to Leave Work.
A Chinese was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, with stealing some brass tops from the Taikoo Sugar Refinery. Defendant said he was working with the things in his hand when he heard the whistle blow to "cease work." He was in such a hurry that he forgot he was carrying the stuff in the sleeves of his jacket. An Indian searber at the works said defendant, when the metal was found on him, admitted the theft. A European from the works said the Company were missing quite a lot of late. Defendant had six or seven coats on. His Worship sent him to prison for three months, and ordered four hours' stocks.

In-Fitting Clothes.
In the early hours of this morning P.C. Fallon was walking along Queen's Road when he saw in front of him a Chinese wearing a coat and trousers obviously too big for him. The constable arrested him and took him under a street lamp, where he found that attached to the trousers were a pair of braces hanging down the back. The man was carrying a bundle under his arm, and while the constable was examining this, the man ran away. Chase was given and he was caught and taken to the Police Station. While there, another man entered and reported the loss of the clothes. The Chinese was charged at the Police Court this morning, before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, with the offence, and was sent to prison for three months' hard labour.

END OF OPIUM COMBINE.

How China Takes Over the Stocks.

The announcement that the Chinese Government has entered into an agreement with the opium merchants to purchase and use exclusively for medicinal purposes the residue of foreign opium existing on March 31 next, estimated for that date at something under 2,000 chests, is one that when the full story is known should, on the whole, meet with general acquiescence, says the N. C. Daily News of February 19. It will be recalled that by an agreement entered into on May 1, 1915, with the Chinese Government, the Opium Combine was to be permitted to sell its opium in the province of Kiangsu, Kiangsi and Kuangtung free of all interference in return for a contribution of \$3,500 per chest. This agreement was to last until March 31, 1917. It will be recalled that owing to the extensive smuggling in Kuangtung as the Combine alleged, and certainly to the outbreak of revolution in Canton during the past summer, this agreement broke down to a very serious extent in the South, and while the sale of opium in Kiangsi and Kiangsu continued fairly well, the Combine found themselves last summer with the end of their agreement in sight and an amount of opium which it was quite impossible to liquidate within the specified time.

The high price at which opium was then standing was the cause of considerable criticism, as it was argued that the Combine could have disposed of their stocks if they had not been so greedy. The explanation that they give, however, is that these prices arose partly from the very large competition among native dealers for opium in 1915. In fact, we are informed that as much as 1,000 chests of opium were sold in a single day and the dealers were competing with each other so vigorously that the prices naturally rose. In view of the high sums that the dealers had paid for the opium at that time it was subsequently impossible for the Combine to lower their prices without causing grave losses to the native dealers who had stocks on their hands purchased at considerably higher figures.

In these circumstances the Opium Combine first approached the Government for an extension of its agreement. The proposal was opposed by ourselves, amongst others, on the ground that, as the treaty between the Indian Government and China of May, 1911, expired this year, it was not fitting that the trade should be continued in by British subjects after that date. The Chinese Government refused any extension of the agreement and the Combine was not, on the whole, displeased with the refusal.

There then arose the question of the surplus stocks in Shanghai & Hongkong which would remain over when the Opium Combine's agreement came to an end, and the Combine argued that in face of the large sum which they had paid under the agreement of May, 1915, to the Chinese Government on an agreement which through no fault of their own they had not been able to use, some consideration was due to them with regard to this opium. After some negotiation the Chinese Government appointed Vice-President Feng Kuo-chang, together with the Civil Governor of Kiangsu and a special Opium Envoy sent down to Shanghai, to bargain with the Opium Combine. The upshot of these discussions is that the Chinese Government has agreed to buy up all the stocks remaining on March 31, next at 1s. 8/200 per chest, payment to be made in 6 per cent. bonds of the first year of the republic secured on the Land Tax and the Stamp Duty. These bonds run for 30 years but by special arrangement they are to be redeemed at the end of ten. The price paid for the opium was arrived at in view of the fact that the bonds stand at a considerable discount, while the average price of opium for the past four years was taken for further guidance. It may be pointed out that the Opium Combine has considerably more than doubled its native market.

FOR THE FRONT.

A Further Batch of Hongkong Policemen.

We have received the permission of the Captain Superintendent of Police to publish the names of police officers who will shortly leave the Colony to proceed on active service. They are:—Sergeant J. Wilson, Constables C. Dorrington, J. D. Murphy, John Murphy, C. F. Alexander, K. W. Andrew, E. A. Vincent, E. J. Ellis, W. J. Henderson, J. Brennan, J. McLellan, O. Goble, G. A. Stimson, W. Barron, A. Nicholl, B. G. Robertson, E. Williams, S. Logan, and H. B. Philippe.

A KEYSIONE COMEDY.

How a Thief Was Captured.

A little scene was enacted in the early hours of this morning, in Kum Yee Street, which would have made a fine setting for a Keystone film. A Chinese was strolling along the thoroughfare when, in a shop window, he espied some cow horns, which he thought he would like to possess. He straightway cogitated on the best means of securing them. Unfortunately for him, the course he decided upon was of rather a clumsy nature, and his efforts, instead of being crowned with the success he anticipated, recoiled on his own head, in more senses than one. Opening the window, he put his hand through and was just congratulating himself on his good fortune, when unobserved by him, the proprietor of the articles had armed himself with a useful iron bar and was watching the antics of the thief with great interest. Like a prudent man he waited until the time was ripe, and when the thief's hand closed round a particularly fine pair of horns, the proprietor gave the head of the pillar a playful tap which had the effect of sending the man down for a sufficient space of time to allow the shopkeeper to slip nimbly round the counter and out at the door, where he had no difficulty in making an arrest. This was the story told before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, at the Police Court this morning, and it amused his Worship immensely. Nevertheless, he sent defendant to cool his heels in gaol for a space of two months.

bers in India in arriving at this agreement than with the Chinese Government. All kinds of fantastic demands came from India and at one time it seemed possible that the British Government would have to be asked to put pressure upon the native merchants. Finally, however, the latter were brought to reason and the agreement has now been signed and sealed.

On the whole it will probably be agreed that the manner in which the controversy has been closed is an equitable one. The stocks of opium were brought in legally and the Chinese Government could hardly refuse to recognise their existence seeing the manner in which the treaty, whereunder the opium entered China, was observed in distinctly open to criticism. Whatever may have been said of its conduct on this point in the past, the Government has certainly dealt most liberally with the Combine; and the latter may think themselves lucky to get so good a price for their surplus stocks, which, as they are to be used for medicine, are not amenable to considerations of the price paid by native opium dealers, with interests to be studied.

The British public will, we may imagine, welcome any agreement in this matter which seems to them fair. They have but the one desire, that Great Britain and British subjects generally should be free, once and for all, with the trade in opium. That desire is now accomplished.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

An interesting old music manuscript was shown by Dr. Terry, organist and director of music at Westminster Cathedral, during an address on "Forgotten English Composers," at the Regent Street Polytechnic. He placed the date of the manuscript at about 1450; and said that it had a curious history. It had been in the possession of someone who did not know its value, for they had cut out the beautiful illuminated letters and past others, painted in ordinary paint, in their place. The manuscript had thus been irreparably damaged. On one occasion the manuscript was sold for two guineas, and subsequently it got into the hands of a City clergyman. Eventually it was presented to Old Hall College, Ware. The British Museum would give a huge sum to secure it, and he hoped that no American financier would make a huge offer for it. If there was any chance of it leaving the country he hoped a special Act of Parliament would be passed to prevent that, for it was one of the most valuable documents relating to early English music.

Albeit printed calendars have been in vogue for over 400 years, says the Chronicle, the much more primitive "clog almanac" retained its popularity until comparatively recent times. These cloggs were cut from blocks of hard wood, and had notches along the four angles corresponding to the days of the year, with a deeper notch for each seventh day, and a broad stroke to indicate the beginning of a month. Some of them did not lack attempts at decoration, each saint's day being marked by a suitable device—as a lover's knot for St. Valentine, and a lock or a herp for St. David.

Of the many imposing houses which formerly clustered round Whitehall, Montagu House—now the temporary headquarters of the Ministry of Labour—is the only one that survived into the present century as a private residence. Pembroke House and Holderness House have been transformed into public offices; Richmond House; Carrington House has given place to the War Office; whilst Portland House and Fife House have also passed away. When Montagu House was rebuilt in 1860 the bricks of the old building served to make the foundations of its successor. These foundations are remarkably substantial, for the Embankment was then only a project, and the vagaries of the Thames had to be guarded against.

The ideal nurse, says the Pacific Medical Journal, is a gentle, genial, generous, gracious, graceful and grateful gentlewoman. She is calm and calmly clean. She carries congenial, companionable comfort in her conscientious, candored conversation. She is cheerful, courteous charming and charitable. Her smile is like a beam of sunshine; her sympathy is strengthening. Her speech is soft and soothing. Her shoes are swift, soft and soundless. She is a Seraphic Samaritan with a will to soothe a smarting soul to slumber. Her motto is "Safety First." She kindles kinetic kindness and renders restful repose with a rosy and radiant outlook for the morrow. Her ministrations are always merciful, her management magnanimous. She is warm hearted and winsome in her willing ways. She would not hurt the feelings of a sister nurse nor the feelings of a sick, sensitive, petulant patient, because she is a gentlewoman and her inborn refinement, her pure heart and tender compassion for human frailties forbid.

A shipper on an Atlantic liner with 200 passengers told a Daily News correspondent the other day that their fares probably amounted to 30,000 dollars. If the ship were converted into a freight boat, she could carry 8,000 tons, which at \$4 a ton would mean 32,000 dollars for a single Eastern voyage. Small wonder, then, that American shippers are thinking in terms of their own merchantable marine in the trade in opium. That desire is now accomplished.

HELENA MAY INSTITUTE.

An Enjoyable Concert
Last Night.

We can hardly recall a local concert at which a greater variety of high-class talent was displayed than at the enjoyable function which took place at the Helena May Institute last night. The event was arranged for the purpose of augmenting the general funds of the Institute, and of assisting the Blinded Soldiers' and Sailors' Fund, and the hall was filled to overflowing. Those present included His Excellency the Governor, Lady May, the Misses May and numerous leading residents. In all, there were no fewer than twelve programmed items, a feature being that, save for encores, which were generously conceded, no individual contributor appeared more than once. From the standpoint of musical excellence the concert was a great success, as was only to be expected from the fact that the Colony's best instrumentalists and vocalists supplied the evening's enjoyment.

Mr. Denman Fuller opened the programme with two bracketed numbers—Debussy's Golliwog's Cake Walk and Chaminade's Pas des Amphores,—which were played with fine taste; and then Mr. Muriel gave a very spirited rendering of Schumann's "The Two Grenadiers," as an encore to which he sang an extremely dainty little Irish ballad. Mrs. Marley, who played her own accompaniments, scored one of the successes of the evening in "Love is Meant to Make us Glad" and she was equally happy in her encore number. Mr. Findlay Smith's reputation as a high-class baritone is well-known, and last night he added further to his local triumphs by his tender and expressive singing of Tremont's "November." Mrs. Bales's interpretation of Massenet's "Thais" amply confirmed the name she had already made for herself locally as a violinist of brilliant capacity. The first part of the programme concluded with two bracketed songs by the Hon. Mr. Claud Severn, O.M.G., both of which were tastefully rendered.

In opening the second part of the concert, Mr. Laith was in his happiest mood, being deservedly recalled; while Miss Little, who followed, was paid a similar compliment for her altogether admirable piano solo, Moszkowski's "Autumn." Mrs. Galloway created a most favourable impression by her singing of "The Great Unknown," and on being recalled, she gave a most charming little lullaby, Elgar's "Pipes of Pan" was very finely sung by Mr. H. L. Jones, while Mrs. Muriel's rendering of "There is a Land" was beyond reproach. The evening's enjoyment concluded with one of Mr. R. Sutherland's inimitable recitations—Jerome K. Jerome on "Babies," which was intensely amusing and greatly enjoyed.

The accompaniments were shared by Mrs. Findlay Smith, Mrs. Austin, Miss Edmund, Mr. Davison and Mr. Peterkin, who contributed materially towards the success of the evening.

CRICKET.

Kowloon C.C. v. The University.

On Saturday the 17th inst., at 2.15 p.m., on the K.C.C. ground, the University will be represented by:—Ng Sze-kwong, G. E. Marley, K. Brayshaw, J. D. Wright, A. H. Ranjsho, A. de Souza, D. P. Dixon, W. Gittens, W. Hall, G. Hall and Chow Yat-choong. Reserve:—A. Ismail.

An Interesting Lecture.
A lecture on "Spanish and Portuguese Colonies at the beginning of the 16th Century" will be delivered by Mr. G. P. de Martin, B.A., at the Helena May Institute, on Monday, the 19th inst., at 5.30 p.m. Members and their friends are invited.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE NEWEST STYLE TENDENCIES In W.B. CORSETS. ATTENTION IS CALLED TO THESE INEXPENSIVE MODELS.



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POLICE RESERVE ORDERS. AFTER A WOMAN IS 30.

Orders issued to-day by Mr F.C. Jenkin D.S.P. (Reserve) state:—

Musketry, Sunday, February 18. All members of the Staff, No. 1 Platoon, Mounted Police, Maxim Gunners and all Company Inspectors who either (1) passed Part 2 of the 1916 Course or (2) passed Part 1 of the 1917 Course will attend the range on Sunday next. Leave Blake Pier at 9 a.m. Drinks foriffin time will be provided by Headquarters' Club.

Members in possession of service rifles will take same to the range. Uniform with helmets. Residents in Kowloon may travel from the old Star Ferry Wharf at 9 a.m. by launch provided by courtesy of the Green Island Cement Co.

Nos. 3 and 4 Companies. Part 2 will be fired by those eligible to do so on Sunday, February 25, and not on March 4. No. 2 Company will fire on March 4.

Central Station Compound. The attention of all ranks is called to Standing Order 139.

Police School. Class 1.—(Inspector Gerrard), Tuesday, February 20.

Class 2.—(Inspector Gordon), Wednesday, February 21.

Class 3.—(Inspector Grant), Monday, February 19. The O.O. No. 2 Company will detail 16 constables to attend with Class 4. The first sitting will take place on Tuesday February 27, at 5.30 p.m.

Strength. Joined.—No. 2 Platoon, O.K. Marker; Water Police, P.A. Loader.

At thirty a woman may reasonably expect to enjoy good health, having then overcome the troubles of early womanhood, yet being free of the later trials of middle age; but various causes tend to undermine the strength of many women of thirty.

Foremost among these causes are the cares of motherhood and household worries, which have a depressing effect on a woman's regular health and nervous system; then again women at work or in business will often be similarly afflicted, for overwork, business anxiety, hurried meals, too little rest and lack of sufficient outdoor recreation thin the blood and give rise to much suffering. Among the prominent symptoms of thin blood are headache, backache, weakness in the limbs and sickly appetite. Still, keen as the distress may be, a little help is usually all the system needs.

All run-down conditions call for richer, better blood; good blood is red blood, and on this a woman's health depends. The best of good, red blood is created by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and this is why these Pills enjoy their reputation among women; they are the tonic best adapted for woman's needs.

Begin a course to-day. Obtain Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People of any dealer or send to Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 98 South Union Road, Shanghai, \$1.50 for one bottle, or \$2/- for six, post free.

Free.—The woman's Health Guide "Plain Talks" is full of useful hints; send a postcard, for a free copy to the above address.

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SPLENDID FLAVOUR.

TO-DAY'S
ADVERTISEMENTS.

PUBLIC AUCTIONS.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

FRIDAY, the 16th February, 1917, at his Sales Rooms, Duddell Street, 2280 Packets Lama Braids. 2 Cases White Shirtings. 5 Bales Khaki Drills. 2 Cases Jerseys. 30 Platform Scales. On view from day of sale. GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

SATURDAY, the 17th February, 1917, commencing at 11 a.m. at the Godowns of the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ltd., Kowloon. 24 Casts Engine & Cylinder Oil. On view from Friday, the 16th inst. Terms:—Cash on delivery. GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

FRIDAY, the 23rd February, 1917, commencing at 2.45 p.m. at No. 4, Humphreys Building, Kowloon. A Quantity of Valuable Household Furniture comprising:—Blackwood desk, joss table, teapots, flower stands, and tables, upholstered Chesterfield couch & armchairs, teak & brass fenders, Tientsin carpet & rug, etc., etc. Teak dining table and chairs, teak sideboard, ice chest, dinner crockery, glassware, aluminium cooking utensils, etc., etc. Fine teak twin bedsteads, double wardrobes, linen cupboard, dressing table, washstand, baby's cot etc., etc. Also 1 Cottage Piano by Rachals. 1 12-bore Gun by Jeffries (nearly new). 1 Sunbeam Bicycle (3 speed). On view from Thursday, the 22nd inst. Catalogue will be issued. Terms:—Cash on delivery. GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

SATURDAY, the 24th February, 1917, commencing at 11 a.m. at Holt's Wharf, Kowloon. One 60 B.H.P. 3 cylinder Gardner Marine Kerosene Engine with high tension magneto ignition, complete with reversing gear. One Gardner Vertical Kerosene Engine with circulating water pump direct coupled to one "Castle" compound open wound type dynamo 15 amp. 100 volt with 2-way switch board. The above are new and are still in original packing. For further particulars apply to the undersigned. Terms:—Cash on delivery. GEO. P. LAMMERT, Auctioneer.

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TO-DAY'S
ADVERTISEMENT.

LOST.

LOST.—On 13th inst. Diamond brooch in shape of daisy, with pearl centre. Pin missing. Finder will be suitably rewarded on returning same to Lt. Colonel Currie, Headquarters Office.

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NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

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"CITY OF VIENNA"
Captain J. W. PARRINGTON, having arrived Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, Kowloon, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

Consignees of Cargo are hereby notified that they must produce an Import Permit signed by the Superintendent of Imports and Exports, Hongkong, before Bills of Lading can be countersigned.

All broken, chafed and damaged goods are to be left in the godowns, where they will be examined on TUESDAY, 20th inst., at 10 a.m.

All claims must be presented within FIFTEEN DAYS of the steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognised.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns, and all goods remaining undelivered after the 21st inst. will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
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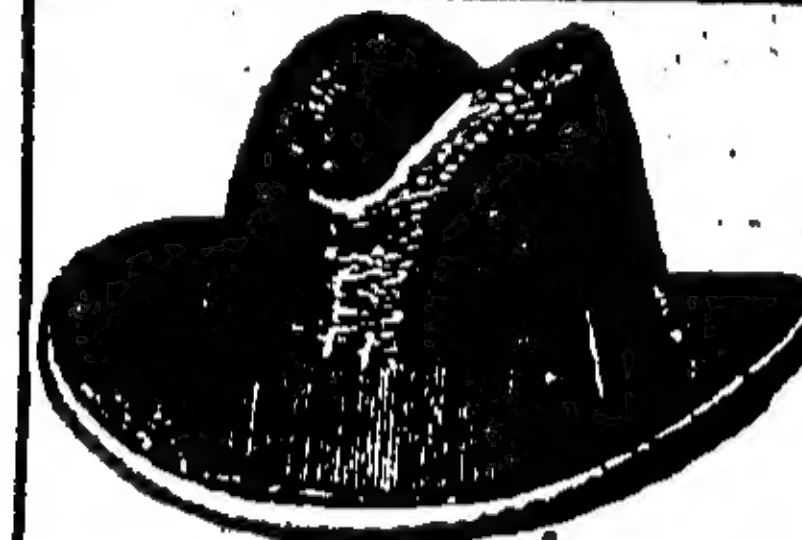
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HONGKONG TO CANTON. | CANTON TO HONGKONG.

THURSDAY, 15th FEBRUARY, 1917.

10.00 p.m. Kinshan. | 5.00 p.m. Fatshan.

FRIDAY, 16th FEBRUARY, 1917.

8.00 a.m. Heungshan. | 8.00 a.m. Honam.
10.00 p.m. Fatshan. | 5.00 p.m. Kinshan.

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S.S. Taishan Tons 2,008. | S.S. Sui Tai Tons 1,651.
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EXCURSION TO MACAO.

SUNDAY, 18th FEBRUARY, 1917.

The Company's Steamship

"TAISHAN"

Will depart from the Company's Wing Lok Street Wharf at
9 a.m. and return from Macao at 3 p.m.

N.B.—The Company's will also run a Steamer from Macao on
Sunday at 7.30 a.m. and from Hongkong at 1 p.m., from the Com-
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These vessels have superior Cabin accommodation and are lighted
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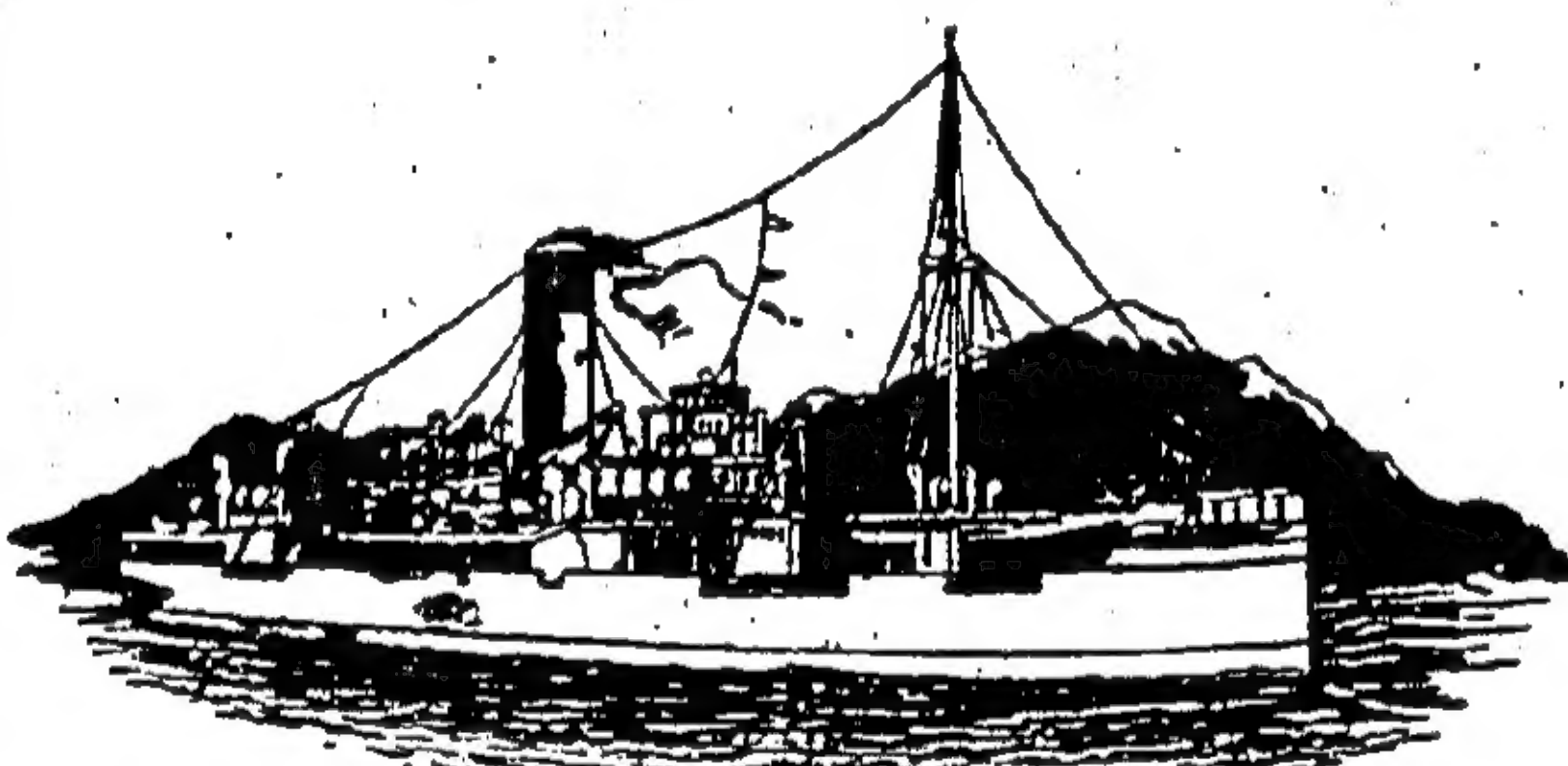
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TIDE TABLE.

From 12th Feb. to 18th Feb.

	High Water	Low Water	High Water	Low Water
	Hongkong	Hongkong	Hongkong	Hongkong
Feb. 12	10.15	4.15	10.15	4.15
Feb. 13	10.15	4.15	10.15	4.15
Feb. 14	10.15	4.15	10.15	4.15
Feb. 15	10.15	4.15	10.15	4.15
Feb. 16	10.15	4.15	10.15	4.15
Feb. 17	10.15	4.15	10.15	4.15
Feb. 18	10.15	4.15	10.15	4.15

m morning. a afternoon.

THE ALEXANDRA CAFE.
Just arrived, Large Shipments of
Cheapest Hams.

VESSELS LOADING AND TO LOAD.

Destination. Vessel's Name. For Freight Apply To. To be Despatched.

NEW YORK, SAN FRANCISCO AND CANADA.

San Francisco via Japan	Tjisondri	J.C.J. L.	19, Feb.
San Francisco via Japan	Sibara M.	T. K. K.	26, Feb.
San Francisco via Japan	Venera la	E. M. S. S.	1, Mar.
Victoria, B.C., & Japan	Lamba M.	N. Y. K.	6, Mar.
San Francisco via Japan	Tei-y M.	T. K. K.	6, Mar.
Vancouver via Japan	E. of Russia	C. P. O. S.	15, Mar.
San Francisco via Japan	Binlang	J.C.J. L.	18, Mar.
San Francisco via Japan	Nippon M.	T. K. K.	24, Mar.
San Francisco via Japan	Keud-r	P. M. S. S.	26, Mar.
Vancouver via Japan	E. of Japan	C. P. O. S.	28, Mar.
San Francisco via Japan	China	C. M. S. S.	1, Apr.
San Francisco via Japan	Tjikembang	J.C.J. L.	3, Apr.
San Francisco via Japan	Korea M.	T. K. K.	18, Apr.
San Francisco via Japan	Araka	J.C.J. L.	14, May.
Vancouver via Japan	E. of Asia	C. P. O. S.	6, June.

JAPAN AND COAST PORTS.

Manila	Yuensang	J. M. Co.	17, Feb.
Swatow/Singapore	husan	B. & S.	17, Feb.
Shanghai and Kobe	Tenshin M.	N. Y. K.	17, Feb.
Shanghai	Kwongsang	J. M. Co.	18, Feb.
Shanghai	Wingsang	J. M. Co.	18, Feb.
Shanghai	Anhui	B. & S.	18, Feb.
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow	Hsihong	D. L. Co.	19, Feb.
Shanghai	Tjimanoek	J. J. L.	21, Feb.
Manila, Cebu and Iloilo	Taming	B. & S.	21, Feb.
Sandakan	Hsiang	J. M. Co.	21, Feb.
Shanghai	Chysang	J. M. Co.	21, Feb.
Kobe Direct	Tosa M.	N. Y. K.	21, Feb.
Swatow, Amoy and Foochow	Haitan	D. L. Co.	23, Feb.
Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama	Kitano M.	N. Y. K.	22, Feb.
Kobe Direct	Yotorofu M.	N. Y. K.	23, Feb.
Manila	Loongwan	J. M. Co.	24, Feb.
Shanghai Kobe and Yokohama	Penang M.	N. Y. K.	24, Feb.
Shanghai	Wosang	J. M. Co.	25, Feb.
Kobe Direct	Be ten M.	N. Y. K.	25, Feb.
Kobe	Tjilatjap	J.C.J. L.	28, Feb.
Nagasaki, Kobe and Yokohama	Nikko M.	N. Y. K.	16, Mar.

CONSIGNEES.

KONINKLYKE PAKET-
VAART MAATSCHAPPY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

From SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"JACOB"

having arrived from the above
port, Consignees of cargo by
her are notified that all
Goods are being landed at their
risk into the hazardous and/or
extra hazardous Godowns of the
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf
and Godown Company, Ltd.
whence and/or from the Wharves
delivery may be obtained.

Goods not cleared by 18th
February, 1917, will be subject to
rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged
packages are to be left in the
Godowns, where they will be ex-
amined by Messrs. Goddard and
Douglas on the 17th February,
1917, at 10 a.m.

Claims against the steamer
must be presented in writing
within ten days after arrival of
steamer, otherwise they will not
be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be ef-
fected by the undersigned in any
case whatever.

Bills of Lading will be coun-
ter signed by

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN,
Agents.
Hongkong, 12th February, 1916.

THE "ABAD" S.S. LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Co.'s Chartered Steamship

"BANDAI MARU"

having arrived Consignees of
Cargo are hereby informed that
their Goods are being landed and
placed at their risk in the Hong-
kong and Kowloon Wharf and
Godown Company's Godowns at
Kowloon, where each consign-
ment will be sorted out mark by
mark and delivery can be ob-
tained as soon as the Goods are
landed.

Goods not cleared by the 19th
February, 1917, will be subject
to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be
effected by the undersigned in
any case whatsoever.

Damaged packages must be left
in the Godowns for examination
by the Consignees and the Co.'s
representatives by appointment.
All claims must be presented
within ten days of the steamer's
arrival here, after which date
they cannot be recognised. No
claims will be admitted after the
goods have left the Godowns.

H. M. H. NEMAZEE,

Agent.

Hongkong, 12th February, 1917.

NOTICE.

HIMROD'S
Gives Instant Relief
No matter how severe your
cough may be, Himrod's
ASTHMA, INFLUENZA,
BRONCHITIS, COUGH,
ORDINARY COUGH.
—you will find in this famous remedy
a restorative power that is simply
unparalleled.
BOTTLED FOR
Sole in the
Country
LEWIS & CLARK
CURE FOR ASTHMA

VICTORIA

TO-NIGHT, FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY TO-NIGHT.
9.15 P.M. 9.15 P.M.

THE MAGNIFICENT FILM:

"DAUGHTER
OF
HERODIAS"

FEATURING THE WORLD-FAMOUS
DANCER MILE NAPIERKOSKA
IN THE "SALOME DANCE."

COMING SOON. A NEW PATHE
COMEDY SERIAL:

"THE NEW ADVENTURES OF
J. RUFUS WALLINGFORD"

the first comedy serial ever been shown.

14 EPISODES.

THEATRE.

THE SINCERE CO., LTD.
UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS.

THE LARGEST MODERN DEPARTMENT STORE IN THE EAST.
AIRIEST, CLEANEST AND COOLEST IN EVERY RESPECT.
WITH ELEVATORS TO EVERY FLOOR.

REFRESHMENTS IN THE ROOF GARDEN. PRICES MODERATE.

TEL. 1007

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

(Continued from Page 1.)

HOLLAND AND EAST INDIES.

A Proposed New Shipping Route.

London, February 13. According to Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, the *Hendel* says the question of communication between Holland and the Dutch East Indies, via New York and the Panama Canal, is being discussed.

It is proposed that certain Dutch steamers shall run between Holland and New York and others between New York and Java.

THE PRICE OF TEA.

Is the Increase Justifiable?

London, February 13. In the House of Commons, Mr. Flavin suggested that the increase in the price of tea in London was unjustifiable. Captain Balfour agreed, and proposed that an investigation should be held immediately.

Mr. Flavin suggested that the names of those large companies unparitically holding up large quantities of tea should be published. Captain Balfour promised to bring the matter to Lord Devonport's attention.

Sir John Ross declared that similar allegations previously made had turned out to have been founded on misunderstanding.

CHINA AND GERMANY.

Reported Decision to Break Off Relations.

London, February 13. According to the *Morning Post*, Shanghai papers state that the Government has decided to break off relations with Germany.

GREEK ARMS FACTORY FIRE.

London, February 13. Reuter's correspondent at Athens reports a big fire at an arms factory in the Piræus. It is rapidly extending. Allied bluejackets are assisting the Greek firemen. There are many victims.

London, February 14. Reuter's correspondent at Athens states that the fire at the Piræus has been controlled.

MILITARY TRAINING FOR INDIA.

London, February 13. The *Times* suggests that many retired British non-commissioned officers in India could give valuable assistance in the training of special Indian units for service in India.

A BIG WAR LOAN SUBSCRIPTION.

London, February 13. Sir George Cooper, High Sheriff of Hants, has subscribed £2,535,000 to the War Loan, including over two millions of new money. This is the largest individual subscription up to the present.

OUR ORDNANCE OUTPUT.

Some Striking Figures.

London, February 14. Speaking at Bedford, Dr. Addison said that we were beating the Boche in the output of heavy guns. Three hundred and sixty-five were produced in Britain in the last week of January, as compared with an average of 22 for the year ending June last. Of medium guns we produced 76, compared with an average of 7.50.

THE AFRIC'S SURVIVORS.

London, February 14. There are one hundred and forty-five survivors of the torpedoed liner *Afric*.

NATIONAL SERVICE RECRUITS.

London, February 13. The response to Mr. Neville Chamberlain's appeal for National Service recruits is most gratifying. There were 11,900 offers yesterday alone.

THE V. 59.

London, February 14. Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says that the *V. 59* has arrived at the mouth of the Ems.

MEDITERRANEAN AERIAL ATTACK.

London, February 14. The Admiralty announces that naval aircraft on Saturday carried out a successful bomb attack in the eastern waters of the Mediterranean, causing considerable damage to the permanent way south of the Yenikoi bridge.

ADJUSTING A LABOUR PROBLEM.

London, February 14. In the House of Commons, Mr. Walter Long announced that he was consulting the authorities at Malta, Gibraltar and Cyprus with regard to the suggestion that men there should be enrolled in Labour Corps under the Military Service Act for service in France, in order to enable the British Labour Corps in France to be used to the full in view of the shortage of labour there.

THE RUSSIAN FRONT.

Germans Use Chemical Shells and Poison Gas.

London, February 14. A Russian wireless official message states: "The Germans, after a bombardment with chemical shells, penetrated our trenches to the south of Driviat Lake, but were driven out, and discharged poison gas to the south of Vishnev Lake."

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

THE BALKAN FRONT.

Pierce Fighting Reported.

London, February 14. A German wireless official message says: "We stormed several Russian positions and repulsed fierce counter-attacks in the Mostovsk sector. We took twelve hundred men and twenty-three officers prisoner."

Italian attacks in the Corina salient were unsuccessful.

Two Bitter Battles.

London, February 14. A Russian wireless official message states that strong forces of Germans on Monday repeatedly attacked on both sides of the Jacobeni-Kimpolung road and occupied a height to the east of Jacobeni. Our counter-attack resulted in an obstinate night-long battle, dislodging the Germans, who on Tuesday resumed the offensive in a day-long battle, during which they captured two heights to the east of Jacobeni. We withdrew two-thirds of a mile and consolidated our position.

Hard Fighting.

London, February 14. A French Macedonian communique says: "Following a very violent bombardment on February 12, important German forces attacked Hill 1050, east of Paralevo, and gained a foothold at different points in the first line trenches. After a very bitter struggle, the greater part was recaptured in a vigorous Italian night attack, which was resumed on February 13."

A British air squadron blew up an ammunition depot north of Demirhisar.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

GERMANY AND AMERICA.

London, February 14. Reuter's correspondent in New York says that President Wilson's response to Germany's attempt to negotiate (cabled on 13th inst.) has stirred enthusiasm throughout the country.

The press comments caustically on the exposure of the craftily laid scheme to divide American opinion and place the United States in a false position.

London, February 14. A French communique states: "Between the Oise and the Aisne, in the region of Queanvilliers, (?) we carried out a destructive fire on enemy works. There was a fairly lively artillery duel elsewhere."

THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT.

London, February 14. Reuter's correspondent at the Hague says that the second chamber passed a vote of confidence in the Government by 46 to 28. The question arose from a discussion of military classification measures.

OPIUM IMPORT CASE.

Further Hearing This afternoon.

The case in which the captain and owners of the s.s. *Sui Kai*, a Chinese-owned steamer running between Hongkong and Macao, are charged with allowing the ship to be used for the importation of 1,850 tins of prepared opium was continued before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this afternoon. The Captain, a Portuguese, named Manuel A. Goncalves, is also charged with aiding and abetting in the importation. A Chinese fireman is charged with importing the drug, and the owners of the boat, three Chinese, are charged with allowing the ship to be so used.

Mr. E. O. Hankinson, of the Imports and Exports Office, again appeared to prosecute, and Mr. F. O. Jeakin, instructed by Mr. E. J. Crist, defended all the defendants save the fireman. Evidence was first given by Captain Morgan, master of the s.s. *Kwongnai*, who deposed to seeing the *Sui Kai* on February 5, whilst he was on his way from Canton to Hongkong. The *Sui Kai* was at anchor half a mile east of the East Brothers, that being in British waters.

Mr. Jenkin proceeded to cross-examine the Indian Watchman who gave evidence yesterday, the witness saying that eight bags of opium were landed on the boat. All the opium came on board at Ohik, and was put in the engine room. He was not told that it was opium, but he and his fellow-watchmen knew it. He only saw the opium twice—that was when it was put on board—and also on the night when the boat was alongside.

The case was later adjourned.

War Films at the Peak.

Members of the Peak Club are reminded that a cinematograph performance will be given at the Club on Friday (February 15), when some very interesting war films will be exhibited. The surplus proceeds will be devoted to War Charities.

SWISS OPINION OF HUNS.

Outspoken Remarks by a Cabinet Minister.

Berne, Dec. 31.—At a public banquet in Geneva on Saturday night, M. Motta, the ex-President of Switzerland, who is now one of the seven members of the Federal Council which constitutes the Swiss Government, made a pointedly anti-German speech. He member of any neutral Government has spoken publicly against Germany. The following are outstanding passages of Mr. Motta's speech:

"We witnessed the violation of the neutrality of Belgium with poignant grief. The entire Swiss nation wishes to see Belgium restored to complete independence and liberty. On January 1, 1915, on the occasion of the New Year's reception of diplomats accredited to Berne, I expressed this wish to the Belgian Minister at Berne, and it is shared by the Swiss people with absolute unanimity."

M. Motta added: "The Swiss Government has drawn to the attention of the German Government the painful impression caused by the total deportations of Belgians, and in so doing we made ourselves the echo of Switzerland's public conscience."

Referring to the origin of the war, M. Motta said: "History will condemn, side by side with those directly responsible for the war, the exponents of the 'might is right' theory, those who advocate moral obligations, the pioneers of aggressive imperialism, and the theorists who claimed superiority for certain races."

Those pointed allusions to the exponents of Kultur were frantically applauded by the Swiss audience to which this outrageous utterance was addressed.—Wireless Press.

GERMANS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Attempt to Burn the Princess Alice.

The Manila Bulletin of February 8 has the following:

Just as the last launch full of members of the crew of the German liner *Princess Alice* was pulling away from the side of the vessel in Cebu harbor, flames were discovered rising from the fore-batch of the ship, and only quick work on the part of the insular government guards succeeded in quenching the fire before serious damage to the boat was occasioned.

It seems that, on account of the large number of members of the crew of the *Princess Alice*, it was necessary to send several launch loads ashore from the ship, and it was only as the last contingent was pulling in toward shore that the flames were seen rising, so that the telegram states from the "peak of the ship." The constabulary guard had already been placed upon the vessel and its members immediately set to work to fight the fire, their efforts resulting in extinguishing the blaze before any considerable amount of damage had been occasioned.

This telegram is the only news which has been received here indicating any trouble aboard the vessel taken over by the government at southern island ports, and as far as the boats in Manila bay are concerned it is stated that there have been no new developments.

The officers and crews of the interdicted vessels here, however, have been more or less dismissed since their removal from the ships, and present indications are that they will all be sent to Baguio for an indefinite stay before many days more have elapsed.

It is stated that the German consul, who, despite the fact that all American vessels have been withdrawn from Germany, is still exercising his functions here, and the local agents for the German ships in the bay have made representations to the government against the flogging of the officers and crews of the boats in the police stations, and have also pointed out that the presence of such a number of men in a large city like Manila, especially when it is considered that these men are without employment and with time heavy upon their hands, is apt to lead to disorders arising from a too free expression of opinion.

This view of the matter is shared by government officials, and it was stated yesterday afternoon that plans are now under way for caring for the men at Baguio, if the necessary arrangements can be made without occasioning too great an expense.

In the meantime it is understood that the police authorities have been granted power to contract with a local restaurant for supplying food to the officers and soldiers from the ships, so that they will not be required to set the fare furnished for prisoners held at the police stations. In view of the complaints of the ship officers, however, arrangements were made yesterday to provide them with lodgings separate from those of their crews, and for this purpose several squad rooms at Luneta and Malabon stations have been set aside.

The insular government during yesterday received no additional information of importance from the United States regarding the international situation, and indications are that nothing is being done aside from making all necessary preparations for eventualities. It is generally felt here that the United States will do nothing that will precipitate a declaration of war, and that the administration is firmly decided to leave the choice of peace or war entirely in the hands of the Berlin officials, to whom it has been made clear by the president that no interference with American rights or violation of the pledge given by Germany to the United States last April will be tolerated.

In the bay there the constabulary still stands guard over the ships, although there has already been at least one instance in which a night guard was so authorized in this connection.

I. O. U. CASE.

Alleged Alteration of a Document.

An Indian, named Bishen Singh, was charged at the Police Court this morning, before Mr. C. D. Melbourne, with feloniously endeavouring to obtain the sum of \$95 from another Indian, named Lal Singh, by means of a forged document. He was also charged with uttering a forged and altered promissory note, to wit, an I.O.U. of Lal Singh's.

Mr. D. Burlingham appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. R. C. Faithfull appeared for the defence.

Mr. Burlingham, outlining the case, said the complainant was a constable at Taipo. On November 4 last year, he went to the premises of defendant to borrow \$25. In the presence of defendant he signed for and took away that sum. The next step in the case was that defendant summoned complainant at the Summary Court, claiming \$95, and producing the I.O.U. of complainant, purporting to be for \$95. Complainant persisted that he only owed \$25. At the request of the Chief Justice, who heard the case, the two men promised to go to a Sikh temple and take the Sikh oath.

Lal Singh swore that Bishen Singh only gave him \$25, and that he only took that amount. Bishen Singh was present, but would not swear. The following day they both went again, when defendant, in the presence of the Jemadar swore that: "Lal Singh took from me \$95." Lal Singh objected to this form of oath, saying that Bishen Singh must say: "I gave him \$95, and he took \$95 away with him."

Bishen Singh then took the oath in that form. At a later hearing of the case, the Chief Justice said he considered the I.O.U. to be a very suspicious document, and that he would hand it over to the Crown Solicitor for him to make investigations.

Mr. Burlingham went on to say that Mr. Duvy, who was an expert on writing, would give evidence to the effect that the tail from the 2 had been erased, and that the lower part of the 9 and the tail of the 9 had been written with the same ink as the top part of the curves of the "9," but the ink had been allowed to dry, and that when the addition to the "2" was made the ink which had formed the "2" was dry. A figure 9, made before this case, by Lal Singh had been obtained from his note book.

Case proceeding.

BANKRUPTCY COURT.

This Morning's Sitting.

The Chief Justice (Sir William Ross Davies) sat in Bankruptcy jurisdiction at the Supreme Court this morning, when there were several small cases to be dealt with. The following business of public interest took place:

An Unofficial Bankrupt. In the case of the bankruptcy of Mui Choy, the Official Receiver applied for the public examination to be closed. He said the examination was adjourned sine die in December, and the debtor was now being charged at the Police Court for making false statements. He asked what no useful object would be served in keeping the examination open.

Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, on behalf of the trustee, objected, saying that out of the Police Court examination matter might arise on which the debtor should be questioned in this Court.

After further argument, His Lordship said he would grant another adjournment as Mr. Bowley asked, for he did not see that it affected the debtor's position at all. If there was sufficient evidence at the Police Court for the man to be put on his trial then it was clear that he could not be brought before this court and further questioned, but if there was not sufficient evidence to convict, the trustee was entitled to put further questions.

The case was adjourned.

A Question of Service. Two cases arose in which Mr. Leo D'Almada appeared, both of these being the hearing of a petition for a receiving order. In neither case had the petition been served on the debtor and in explaining this, Mr. D'Almada said that it was ruled by his Lordship in a case about a year ago that service could not be properly made on a member of a firm who was not in a position to make an act of bankruptcy. An account was, under that ruling, not liable to service (Mr. D'Almada) had been unable to find one of the partners.

In the case of the Kwong Man Shing Shipyard, the petition was struck off, and in the other case, that of the Kwong Hing Firm, an adjournment was granted until the next bankruptcy day, Mr. D'Almada being advised to get an order for substituted service if he could not find a partner.

OIL IN WAR AREA.

English Company's Loss in Rumania.

The Rumanian Consolidated Oilfields Company, to all appearances, has lost heavily, through the over-running of Rumania by the Germans, and the directors frankly recognise this in their report—a document which has a painful war interest to everybody in this country, and particularly to the shareholders. For the year to June 30 last, it seems, there is a debit of £198,703, but as £113,451 was brought in from the previous year the net debit is reduced to £85,252. The production of crude oil during the year amounted to 50,761 tons. On June 30 the company held 15,556 tons of stock of which 1,540 tons were crude oil, and the greater portion of the balance consisted of high-class kerosene. If these products could have been delivered to purchasers, the directors state, a profit on the year's working corresponding with the results of the previous two years would have been shown.

It was impossible, however, to effect export deliveries, and in the light of the events which have now happened no figures whatever are placed opposite the stocks, because they were stored in places which the law in the possession of the enemy, and if not destroyed by the allies before their return, will inevitably be the enemy's hands. The directors' remarks are, "The stocks were stored in places which the law in the possession of the enemy, and if not destroyed by the allies before their return, will inevitably be the enemy's hands. The directors' remarks are, 'The stocks were stored in places which the law in the possession of the enemy, and if not destroyed by the allies before their return, will inevitably be the enemy's hands.'

COMMERCIAL NEWS.

Gold Report.
In their weekly circular of January 4, Messrs. Samuel, Montagu and Co. write:—The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue shows an increase of £394,525 as compared with last week's return. The following movements of gold have taken place during the week: £33,000,000 received in New York from Canada (described by the financial correspondent in New York of the Times as the largest shipment on record), and \$3,000,000 received in Philadelphia from Canada.

Dacca Iron and Steel Imports.
Iron and mild steel bars imported into Dacca during the quarter ended in September, 1916, totalled 45,052 piculs and 18,085 piculs for the same quarter in 1915, showing an increase of 28,987 piculs, or 175 per cent. There was also an increase in iron and mild steel sheets and plates which totalled 17,848 piculs and 10,138 piculs, a difference of 7,710 piculs. Galvanised iron sheets show a decrease of 4,071 piculs; the totals were 1,832 piculs and 5,903 piculs, a decrease of 68 per cent.

Rubber Cultivation in Siam.
The United States Vice-Consul, Mr. Carl C. Hansen, Bangkok, notes, in a report, that hitherto Siam has not acquired any distinction as a rubber-growing country, and during the last five years the export of this product through the port of Bangkok has been comparatively small. The only rubber plantation of any importance in Southern Siam is located at Chantaboon, and consists of 25,000 trees, planted about six years ago, of which 20,000 trees are now ready for tapping. Considerable quantities of rubber, however, are said to come from Northern Siam, the product of rubber-yielding trees of the jungle. In the Siam Malay States some attention has been given to rubber cultivation in the districts of Trang and Satun. Reliable information is not obtainable here, but it is said that the output of rubber has been insignificant so far in these provinces.

Silver Report.
Writing on January 4, Messrs. Samuel, Montagu & Co. report that the silver market has been unusually inert during the week. There has been no change in the price fixed a week ago, viz.:—38½. The visible amount of business transacted has been rather small. Some general inquiries, other than the constant demand for coinage, have been daily in evidence, but not enough to create competition sufficient to affect the price. The Shanghai exchange has fallen a half-penny, and some silver has been sold on China account. Yesterday some purchases were made for the Indian Bazaars, where the stock has been much reduced of late. The last Indian Currency Returns give details in lakhs of rupees as follow for December, 22:—

Notes in circulation .. 7,983
Reserve in silver coin and Bullion .. 1,023
Gold in England .. 1,192
Gold coin and bullion .. 1,184
The stock in Bombay consists of 2,160 bars as compared with 2,200 last week.

U. S. Cotton Industry.
The Board of Trade Journal, quoting a report from the British Embassy at Washington, says that the preliminary statistics for the cotton year ended July 31, 1916, issued by the Bureau of the Census, show a total consumption in American mills of 6,397,613 bales of cotton and 880,916 bales of lint. The corresponding amounts for the year ended July 31, 1915, were 6,597,362 bales and 411,845 bales respectively, and for the year ended August 31, 1914, 5,677,408 bales and 307,325 bales respectively. The consumption of cotton during the cotton year 1916 represented increases of 14.3 per cent, and 14.7 per cent, as compared with that for the cotton years 1915 and 1914 respectively, and the corresponding percentages of increase for lint were 113.9 and 186.6. The marked increase in the consumption of lint is due to the very great increase in the use of cotton in the manufacture of explosives. The number of foreign spindles active during the cotton year 1916 throughout the United States was

MONK WHO RULED A COURT.

Dramatic Assassination of Rasputin.

Petrograd, Dec. 31.—The famous monk Rasputin has just been assassinated. He was of humble origin, and made his way into aristocratic religious circles, and even at Court.—Wireless Press.

It is believed that the assassination was carried out under very dramatic circumstances. A member of the nobility played the leading part in it.

This makes the third time within a year that Rasputin is reported to have met a violent end. Two years ago he had a narrow escape, a woman adherent of the rival monk Heliodorus stabbing him in the street with a large military dirk, "because he was a false prophet and was leading all astray." Rasputin for a time was in danger of death, but eventually recovered from his wound.

There is no doubt that on this occasion he has been finally done away with.

For some years Rasputin has been known as the power behind the Tsar's throne. He acquired great influence over both the Tsar and Tsarina, and all who stood in his way or were unfriendly had a way of disappearing into exile, while the monk's luxurious house became the unofficial centre of Russian Government, where Ministers were made and unmade.

Until the age of 30 Rasputin, who was of Siberian peasant origin, led an uneventful life. Then, in an accession of religious fervour, he wandered through North Russia from monastery to monastery, and finally, by the introductions of high ecclesiastical authorities at Petrograd, and by his magnetic personality, he created a sort of religious salon in the capital.

From time to time there were revulsions of feeling against the man, and grave stories were circulated of his mode of life, but he invariably triumphed over his detractors. He warned the Tsarites, on one occasion when he was sent away from Petrograd, that some disaster would happen. The Tsar's wife fell ill, and the lay monk was at once recalled.

Rasputin has been scathingly denounced in the Duma, directly and indirectly. The substance of his teaching is that "To live is to love; that every evil deed is immediately punished in this world; that unless a man sins there is nothing to pardon him for; and that sin is therefore the path to grace."

It was among women, of all classes, that the influence of Rasputin was supreme. He made no secret of his power over them, and in an interview in the Novos Vremya he described in unblushing detail the amazing attentions he had extorted and paid.

He was a man of handsome presence, with long, flowing, reddish hair and beard, of middle height, vigorous and erect. Though his personal habits, as ways remained those of the Russian peasant, he latterly affected a certain elegance. He customarily wore a long kaftan of blue serge, a Russian blouse, and patent leather top boots.

Rasputin brought one of his two daughters—he was married early in life, but his wife never left her native village—to Petrograd, where she became chief companion of the Tsar's daughters.—Daily Chronicle.

Miss Sylvia Pankhurst.
Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, the militant suffragette, and a number of sympathisers, endeavoured recently to hold a "demonstration" at the East India dock gates, London, to demand peace. A big crowd assembled and mobbed the speakers. The police interfered and rushed Miss Pankhurst and her friends to the police station, followed by a demonstrative crowd. The prisoners were held under bail for examination before a magistrate.

32,805,883, representing increases of 2.6 per cent and 2.2 per cent, respectively as compared with the corresponding figures for the cotton years 1915 and 1914.

IS AMERICA FORCING GERMANY'S HAND?

Real Meaning of Peace Message.

New York, December 24.—A view of President Wilson's Note well worth presenting to British readers is set out in two leading articles in the New York Times. In explaining the meaning of the Note, the Times' which represents the "middle" opinion in America, free from violent party prejudice and well-informed, believe that the President's object is to force the hand of Germany. In the second and stronger utterance, written after the receipt of the Press opinion from Great Britain, the Times says:—

"Germany must now decide whether she will propose terms of peace the Allies can accept, or continue to fight, subject to the great risk and probability that at no distant time the United States will be compelled to enter the war against her."

"That is what the President's Note means to Germany. It will be so understood by the Imperial Government, and what Germany says, will be understood and said by her Allies."

"That is the only meaning the Note can have when read in the light of events which cast upon it."

"Why are the President's words misunderstood? Why is there much doubt and discussion as to the meaning?"

"Much is made of the passage in which the President appears to make no distinction, to see no difference, between the objects for which the Allies are fighting and those for which the Teutonic Powers are fighting. What he said in the Note was that the objects the statesmen of the belligerents have in mind are virtually the same, as stated in general terms to their own people and to the world."

"It is an unfortunate phrase, since it has been misunderstood, but its justification is that German statesmen have said these things; they have said what Mr. Asquith and the present British Prime Minister have said."

"What they have in their minds the President could not know. He inferred it only as stated in general terms to their own people and to the world."

"The United States at the present moment is a neutral Power. The President could not address a Note to Germany alone, demanding to know her terms of peace. That would have been an unfriendly act and threat. It could have been construed only as a prelude to war. The Note was sent—had to be sent—to all belligerent Powers."

"It is amazing that the English Press should have so completely misunderstood the Note, that the newspapers there almost without exception should have construed it as a sort of intervention, as meddling, as an attempt to pull Germany's chestnuts out of the fire by using the influence of our Government to secure for her immediate peace."

"The German Government will not so misunderstand it. If, as Mr. Lansing said in his first statement, afterwards discreetly modified, 'we are drawing nearer the verge of war ourselves,' it is war with Germany."

"The United States may be compelled to go to war with Germany. The President does not want war with Germany, therefore he asks her to submit terms of peace the Allies can accept, including essential and adequate guarantees against future war."

"With the Allies we can have no thought of war. They are fighting our battle. They are fighting for our principles, for human liberty, for the rights of nations small and great."

"War with Germany would be deplorable. We do not desire it. If it is forced upon us our resources, added to the resources of the Allies, will bring the struggle to quick determination."

"It is not merely because we sympathise with Great Britain and France in this struggle, not merely because we honour the principles for which they contend, that we desire their triumph. We know that the victory of Germany would be a peril to us. If we enter the war that thought will be in our minds."

"Should we be provoked to action, it will be better for us to

WAR'S INVENTIONS.

Patents for Submarines, Bombs, and Artificial Limbs.

Applications for patents last year numbered 18,686, an increase of 461. The figures for war patents are well maintained, and a number of these patents have been taken over by the Government.

Two classes of patents stand out prominently—those relating to bombs, grenades, and other weapons used in modern trench warfare, and those bearing on the manufacture of artificial limbs, and so forth, for which the former devices are no doubt largely responsible.

There is a large increase in inventions relating to aircraft in any form, proving the great interest taken in this industry; while gunnery, submarines, and explosives are well represented.

The only patent issued to an alien enemy under the Patents Act passed after war began is one for grinding swords, for which licences have been granted to Sheffield firms, so that the only patent issued to a German will be used against the enemy.

Among the numerous labour-saving devices is a new motor cycle for parcels, which enables a person to deliver more packages in a day than he could otherwise do in a week.

ONE-MAN BUSINESSES.

Man-Power Board and a Hammersmith Scheme.

A scheme for dealing with the problem of the calling-up of owners of small one-man businesses has been formulated by the Hammersmith Borough Council, and the Man Power Board have informed that, while they are unaware of any existing plan such as that outlined, they would like to be furnished with particulars of any method approved by the Council.

The Council has been recommended to appoint a special committee, and it is suggested that this committee should:

1. Furnish either voluntary or paid assistants to carry on the businesses;
2. Arrange by recommendation a continuation of credit to the businesses by wholesale firms in cases where credit might be jeopardised by the owner being called up; and
3. Carry out a system of regular advertising in various localities of the businesses the owners of which have joined the force.

The Town Clerk states that 327 businesses may be adversely affected in the event of the proprietors being called up, and he has been instructed to address a communication to each of the shopkeepers of military age affected, and to prepare a report upon the replies.

spend five billions, or ten billions, now than be forced to spend 25 billions later on in a war against Germany waged by ourselves alone.

"We have no army, we have no great navy, but we have available resources greater than those of all the Allies put together, and we have prodigious and developed capacity for the manufacture of munitions."

"All that the German Government knows very well. All that will be taken into account when the answer to the President's Note, or to the coming Note of the Allies, is prepared in Berlin."

"Of the reply the Allied Powers will make to the President we may be said to have ample foreknowledge. All depends on Germany's reply."

"If she offers terms of peace acceptable to the Allies, she will act with the highest wisdom. She will have embraced what is probably her last opportunity to make peace on terms in the making of which she will have something to say. She has bid her warning. We are confident that she will not misunderstand the President's Note."

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NOTICE.

NOTICE.

PEAK TRAMWAYS CO. LIMITED. TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

1.00 A.M. to 1.00 A.M. Every 15 minutes.

1.15 A.M. to 1.15 A.M. Every 15 minutes.

1.30 A.M. to 1.30 A.M. Every 15 minutes.

1.45 A.M. to 1.45 A.M. Every 15 minutes.

2.00 A.M. to 2.00 A.M. Every 15 minutes.

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